

SKETCHES OF LINCOLN.

Settling Down to the Practice of Law.

EFFECT OF HIS POLITICAL DEFEAT.

His Talent as a Story Teller—How He Appeared in the Law Office—His Most Striking Characteristic—How the Fees Were Divided.

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XVI.

While a member of congress and otherwise immersed in politics, Lincoln seemed to lose all interest in the law. Of course what practice he himself controlled passed into other hands. I retained all the business I could and worked steadily on until, when he returned, our practice was as extensive as that of any other firm at the bar. Lincoln realized that much of this was due to my efforts, and on his return he therefore suggested that he had no right to share in the business and profits which I had made. I responded that, as he had aided me and given me prominence when I was young and needed it, I could afford now to be grateful if not generous. I therefore recommended a continuation of the partnership, and we went on as before. I could notice a difference in Lincoln's movement as a lawyer from this time forward. He had begun to realize a certain lack of discipline—a want of mental training and method. Ten years had wrought some change in the law and more in the lawyers of Illinois. The conviction had settled in the minds of the people that the protechnics of courtroom and stump oratory did not necessarily imply extensive or profound ability in the lawyers who resorted to them. The courts were becoming graver and more learned, and the lawyer was learning as a preliminary and indispensable condition to success that he must be a close reasoner, besides having at command a broad knowledge of the principles on which the statutory law is constructed. There was, of course, the same riding on circuit as before, but the courts had improved in tone and morals, and there was less laxity—at least it appeared so to Lincoln.

Political defeat had wrought a marked effect on him. It went below the skin and made a changed man of him. He was not so sour at his seeming political decline, but still he determined to eschew politics from that time forward and devote himself entirely to the law. And now he began to make up for time lost in politics by studying the law in earnest. No man had greater power of application than he. Once fixing his mind on any subject, nothing could interfere with or disturb him. Frequently I would go out on the circuit with him. We usually at the little country inns occupied the same bed. In most cases the beds were too short for him, and his feet would hang over the footboard, thus exposing a limited expanse of shin bone. Placing a candle on a chair at the head of the bed, he would read and study for hours. I have known him to study in this position till 2 o'clock in the morning. Meanwhile I and others who chanced to occupy the same room would be safely and soundly asleep.

On the Circuit.

On the circuit in this way he studied Euclid until he could with ease demonstrate all the propositions in the six books. How he could maintain his mental equilibrium or concentrate his thoughts on an abstract mathematical proportion while Davis, Logan, Swett, Edwards and I so industriously and volubly filled the air with our interminable snoring was a problem none of us could ever solve. I was on the circuit with Lincoln probably one-fourth of the time. The remainder of my time was spent in Springfield looking after the business there, but I know that life on the circuit was a gay one. It was rich with incidents and afforded the nomadic lawyers ample relaxation from all the irksome toil that fell to their lot. Lincoln loved it. I suppose it would be a fair estimate to state that he spent over half the year following Judges Treat and Davis around on the circuit. On Saturdays the court and attorneys, if within a reasonable distance, would usually start for their homes. Some went for a fresh supply of clothing, but the greater number went simply to spend a day of rest with their families. The only exception was Lincoln, who usually spent his Sundays with the loungers at the country tavern and only went home at the end of the circuit or term of court.

"At first," relates one of his colleagues on the circuit, "we wondered at it, but soon learned to account for his strange disinclination to go home. Lincoln himself never had much to say about home, and we never felt free to comment on it. Most of us had pleasant, inviting homes, and as we struck out for them I'm sure each one of us down in our hearts had a mingled feeling of pity and sympathy for him." If the day was long and he was oppressed, the feeling was soon relieved by the narration of a story. The tavern loungers enjoyed it, and his melancholy, taking to itself wings, seemed to fly away.

As a Story Teller.

In the role of a story teller I am prone to regard Mr. Lincoln as without an equal. I have seen him surrounded by a crowd numbering as many as 200 and in some cases 300 persons, all deeply interested in the outcome of a story which, when he has finished it, speedily found repetition in every grocery and lounging place within reach. His power of mimicry, as I have before noted, and his manner of recital were in many respects unique if not remarkable. His countenance and all his features seemed to take part in the performance. As he neared the pith or point of the joke or story every vestige of seriousness disappeared from his face. His little gray eyes sparkled, a smile seemed to gather

up, curlatlike, the corners of his mouth, his frame quivered with suppressed excitement, and when the point, or "nub," of the story, as he called it, came no one's laugh was heartier than his. These backwoods allegories are out of date now, and any lawyer ambitious to gain prominence would hardly dare thus to entertain a crowd, except at the risk of his reputation, but with Lincoln it gave him in some mysterious way a singularly firm hold on the people.

How Lincoln appeared and acted in the law office has been graphically and, I must confess, truthfully told by a gentleman, now in New York, who was for several years a student in our office. I beg to quote a few lines from him: "My brother met Mr. Lincoln in Ottawa, Ill., one day and said to him, 'I have a brother whom I would very much like to have enter your office as a student.' 'All right!' was the reply. 'Send him down, and we will take a look at him.' I was then studying law at Grand Rapids, Mich., and on hearing from my brother I immediately packed up and started for Springfield. I arrived there on Saturday night. On Sunday Mr. Lincoln was pointed out to me. I well remember this first sight of him. He was striding along, holding little Tad, then about 8 years old, by the hand, who could with the greatest difficulty keep up with his father. In the morning I applied at the office of Lincoln & Herndon for admission as a student.

A Modest Office.

"The office was on the second floor of a brick building on the public square, opposite the courthouse. You went up one flight of stairs and then passed along a hallway to the rear office, which was a medium sized room. There was one long table in the center of the room and a shorter one running in the opposite direction, forming a T, and both were covered with green baize. There were two windows which looked into the back yard. In one corner was an old fashioned secretary with pigeonholes and a drawer, and here Mr. Lincoln and his partner kept their law papers. There was also a bookcase containing about 200 volumes of law as well as miscellaneous books.

"The morning I entered the office Mr. Lincoln and his partner, Mr. Herndon, were both present. Mr. Lincoln addressed his partner thus: 'Billy, this is the young man of whom I spoke to you. Whatever arrangement you make with him will be satisfactory to me.' Then, turning to me, he said: 'I hope you will not become so enthusiastic in your studies of Blackstone and Kent as did two young men whom we had here. Do you see that spot over there?' pointing to a large ink stain on the wall. 'Well, one of these young men got so enthusiastic in his pursuit of legal lore that he fired an inkstand at the other one's head, and that is the mark he made.' I immediately began to clean up about the office a little. Mr. Lincoln had been in congress and had the usual amount of seeds to distribute to the farmers. These were sent out with Free Soil and Republican documents. In my efforts to clean up I found that some of the seeds had sprouted in the dirt that had collected in the office. Judge Logan and Milton Hay occupied the front offices of the same floor with Lincoln and Herndon, and one day Mr. Hay came in and said, with apparent astonishment, 'What's happened here?' 'Oh, nothing,' replied Lincoln, pointing to me, 'only this young man has been cleaning up a little.'

"Lincoln's favorite position when unraveling some knotty law point was to stretch both of his legs at full length upon a chair in front of him. In this position, with books on the table near by and in his lap, he worked up his case. No matter how deeply interested in his work, if any one came in he had something humorous and pleasant to say, and usually wound up by telling a joke or an anecdote. I have heard him relate the same story three times within as many hours to persons who came in at different periods, and every time he laughed as heartily and enjoyed it as if it were a new story. His humor was infectious. I had to laugh because I thought it funny that Mr. Lincoln enjoyed a story so repeatedly told.

Dividing the Fees.

"There was no order in the office at all. The firm of Lincoln & Herndon kept no books. They divided fees without taking any receipts or making any entries on books. One day Mr. Lincoln received \$5,000 as a fee in a railroad case. He came in and said, 'Well, Billy, addressing his partner, Mr. Herndon, 'here is our fee. Sit down and let me divide.' He counted out \$2,500 to his partner and gave it to him with as much nonchalance as he would have given a few cents for a paper. Cupidity had no abiding place in his nature.

"I took a good deal of pains in getting up a speech which I wanted to deliver during a political campaign. I told Mr. Lincoln that I would like to read it to him. He sat down in one chair, put his feet into another one and said: 'John, you can fire away with that speech. I guess I can stand it.' I unrolled the manuscript and proceeded with some trepidation. 'That's a good point, John,' he would say at certain places, and at others, 'That's good—very good indeed,' until I felt very much elated over my effort. I delivered the speech over 50 times during the campaign. Elmer E. Ellsworth, after colonel of the famous zouaves, who was killed in Alexandria early in the war, was nominally a student in Lincoln's office. His head was so full of military matters, however, that he thought little of law. Of Ellsworth, Lincoln said, 'That young man has a real genius for war!'

Lincoln's Hatred of Oppression.

To Newton Bateman, October, 1860: "I know there is a God, and that he hates injustice and slavery. I see the storm coming, and I know that his hand is in it. If he has a place and work for me, and I think he has, I believe I am ready. I am nothing, but truth is everything. I know I am right because I know that liberty is right, for Christ teaches it, and Christ is God."

THE COMING AMERICAN WOMAN.



SHE GOES ABROAD.



BUYS FRENCH SILKS.



SEES JOHN BULL'S SHOWS.



AND FOLLOWS THE FASHIONS.



RETURNS HOME AND BUYS AMERICAN GOODS.



PATRONIZES AMERICAN LABOR.



AND THEN SHE LEADS THE WORLD.

THE RAW MATERIAL CRV.

A Dollar Saved on a Suit of Clothes and Sheep Industry Ruined.

The cost of the raw material in the manufactured article was a theme of discussion in the presidential campaign of 1892 among the advocates of the so called reform tariff. Facts ascertained by investigation show that such cost is very small in proportion to the other expenses. For illustration, the price of an elaborately made article of household furniture may be \$100 to \$150, yet the raw material used in the same may cost \$12 or \$15. This is equally true of a piano costing from \$300 to \$800; the raw material may cost \$25 or \$30. In these cases the cost of the material is estimated as it reaches the hands of the workmen and not as iron ore in the mine or wood in the forest. Its great expense is in the wages of the workmen who procure it.

Mr. Cleveland himself laid great stress upon the free admission of iron ore and coal and was specially earnest for wool to be admitted free of duty. Take an illustration: A gentleman's suit of fine broadcloth weighs, with the trimmings, etc., from 6½ to 7½ pounds. The cloth itself does not weigh more than perhaps 6 or 6½ pounds. Suppose an American manufacturer buys the best quality of merino wool to use in making his cloth, and in order to cover the wastage he buys ten pounds of the wool. The McKinley bill imposed a duty of 11 cents a pound on that class of wool. From this it follows that each gentleman's broadcloth suit costs \$1.10 more money because of the duty. Now intervene one type of statesmanship, by which in order that perhaps 500,000 gentlemen may each obtain a suit of broadcloth \$1.10 cheaper all wool is admitted free of duty. In consequence the sheep raising industry of the United States, which is estimated in value to be nearly \$100,000,000, is depreciated about one-half.

AD VALOREM UNDERVALUATION.

The Gorman Tariff Law Aids Fraud at the Custom House.

A leading merchant, who is an authority in all that concerns the wool and woolen trade, and who visited Montana annually to buy wool, told us some time since that undervaluation is carried on in many ways. This is one of them: The German manufacturer either owns the New York concern or is in partnership with it. He "sells" the New York house goods at prices below the market value and invoices them at such prices in order that they may pay less than the fair duty at the custom house.

When an American merchant or perhaps a customs officer makes inquiry, the German manufacturer very candidly offers the goods at the invoiced prices. But when the merchant decides to buy some or to give an order for delivery later on he is met with the response that the factory is really so overwhelmed with orders that it could not safely accept any more. The stock on hand is all sold, of course. In this manner the customs service is baffled, and the intent of the tariff is defeated.

This statement was made before the Gorman tariff, with its many needless ad valorem rates, went into effect and held out its premium to fraud and evasion. In connection with the reports of the undervaluation of textile fabrics recently made public it is suggestive.

WILL BUILD A NEW WALL.

A Tariff Wanted to Keep Out Goods That Can Be Made at Home.

We, as a nation, are all dependent upon each other, and if any great number of our people are out of employment all the people will suffer. What the people want is not more idle money, but more work and more buyers for what we have to sell.

Our country is being flooded with the merchandise of Europe, and it will be sold at some price or other, and we cannot have real general prosperity until we have barred out those goods long enough to consume all the foreigners can rush in here before we raise the tariff. The little improvement that seems to be noticed now in general business is only the slight revival from total depression and is caused by those buyers or consumers who have held off from purchasing so long that they have entirely exhausted their supplies and must buy a little.

We want to erect a tariff wall that will effectually keep out of our land all goods that we can reasonably make at home. This will keep our own mechanics busy and enable them to buy the farmer's produce, instead of compelling the farmer to send it to Europe for a market.—Peabody (Kan.) Gazette.

FACTS FROM FIGURES.

Protection Has Given a Surplus, Free Trade a Deficiency.

During the 28 years from 1866 to 1893 inclusive the total amount of government revenue received in excess of the government expenditures was \$1,815,683,249. This was an average surplus of \$64,845,320 during each and every year of protection.

During the following two years of the threat of free trade the aggregate deficiency of the Democratic administration, or the excess of expenditure over revenue, was \$112,628,310, or at the rate of \$56,314,155 a year.

Protection gave an average surplus of revenue of nearly \$65,000,000 during each one of 28 years in succession. Free trade gave a deficiency of \$56,314,155 a year. Such are the historic facts of the treasury department. As the New York Times says, "this is unquestionably a good showing"—for protection.

No New Issue.

There will be no new issue until a Republican protective tariff has taken the place of this Democratic tariff of debt and destruction. There will be no new issue until American industry stands where it stood in 1892 and American wages have been restored to the high standard that then prevailed.—New York Press.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON VI, THIRD QUARTER, INTERNATIONAL SERIES, AUG. 11.

Text of the Lesson, Num. xxi, 4-9.—Memory Verses, 8, 9.—Golden Text, John iii, 14.—Commentary by the Rev. D. M. Stearns.

4. "And they journeyed from Mount Hor by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom, and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way." Edom was Esau, Jacob's brother. So the Edomites were near kinsmen of Israel, according to the flesh. Yet they refused to allow Israel to pass through their land, although Israel offered to pay for the water they might use while passing through (xx, 18-21). In the previous chapter we have also an account of the death of Miriam in the first month, and the death of Aaron in the fifth month of the fortieth year. See chapter xxxiii, 38. We find Israel in this lesson about where we saw them in the last lesson, but it is 38 years later in the story. Hundreds of thousands have died in the wilderness, and a new generation has grown up, yet of those 38 years of wanderings because of their unbelief we know scarcely anything. They were out of fellowship, and it was lost time. We are reminded of the 13 years of Abram's life of which we know nothing (Gen. xvi, 16; xvi, 17), and of the lost time of the Nazirite (Num. vi, 12). Where we are out of fellowship with God through unbelief or worldliness, the time is lost. We are reminded that the journey of life is often a weary one to the flesh, but if we are in Christ, who is "the way" (John xiv, 6), and will continually "consider Him" and "look unto Him" (Heb. xii, 2, 3), we will be greatly helped and strengthened and will not be discouraged, even though our own relations turn against us. Think of the brother of Abel, the brethren of Joseph and of David, and even the brethren of Jesus did not at one time believe in Him (John vii, 5).

5. "And the people spake against God and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water, and our soul loatheth this light bread." Ps. lxxviii tells the story of their sin from beginning to end. In Deut. ix, 24, Moses says, "Ye have been rebellious against the Lord from the day that I knew you." In Num. xii, 1, it is written that "when the people complained, it displeased the Lord." And in Ps. xcv, 10, the Lord Himself says "Forty years long I grieved with this generation." What a relief to turn to Him of whom it is said by the Father, "This is My Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased," and to hear the Son Himself say, "I do always those things that please Him" (Matt. xvi, 5; John viii, 29). The Word for us is, "Do all things without murmuring or disputings." "Be content with such things as ye have" (Phil. ii, 1-4; Heb. xiii, 5; see also I Cor. x, 6-13).

6. "And the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people and many people of Israel died." In James iii, 8, it is said that the tongue is an unruly evil full of deadly poison, and of sinners it is said in Rom. iii, 13, "The poison of asps is under their lips." The people had been slandering God with the poison of their tongues and now they are reaping as they sowed. They sowed the wind and they are reaping the whirlwind (Gal. vi, 7; Hos. viii, 7). Sometimes a swift reckoning overtakes the sinner, as in the case of Korah and his company, Achaz and Ananias and Sapphira, but it is always preceded by much long suffering and patient forbearance, as in the days of Noah. "He that being often reproved, hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy" (Prov. xxix, 1). "Because there is wrath, beware lest He take thee away with His stroke; then a great ransom cannot deliver thee" (Job. xxxvi, 18).

7. "Therefore the people came to Moses and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against thee. Pray unto the Lord that He take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people." In Ps. cxi we read again and again that they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and He heard and delivered them. He is full of compassion and forgiveness, and for us it is written that "if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I John i, 9). There is a better way to live, however, than that of constant sinning and repenting. We may walk in the light as He is in the light, have fellowship with Him and rejoice in the blood that cleanseth from all sin (I John i, 7). We shall never on this side of the glory cease to need that cleansing blood, but we may have wonderful victory over sin and fellowship with God.

8. "And the Lord said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent and set it upon a pole, and it shall come to pass that every one that is bitten when he looketh upon it shall live." How strange the remedy, a likeness of that which slew them! How suggestive of the Lord Jesus, who took upon Him our likeness, the likeness of sinful flesh, and was made sin for us (Rom. viii, 3; I Cor. v, 21). The serpent brought death, and the likeness of the serpent brought life. By Adam came sin and death and the curse. By the Son of God, in the likeness of Adam made a curse for us, came life and health and peace (Rom. v, 12, 17; Gal. iii, 13). How simple the way of life! Though all but dead from the serpent's bite, if but the glazing eye could see the brazen serpent there was life.

9. "And Moses made a serpent of brass and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived." In John iii, 14, 15, see the Saviour's application of this to Himself. Write your own name in full in John iii, 16, instead of the words "the world" and "whosoever," and believe that God means you, and the believing look upon Him who died for you, in the light of John i, 12, will surely bring you life. If C. H. Spurgeon, now resting from his labors, passed from death to life by a look, in obedience to Isa. xiv, 22, you can do the same if you will. The atonement has been made; the work of providing redemption has been finished. Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures; He was delivered for our offenses and raised again for our justification, and now the penitent sinner who honestly receives Him is instantly justified from all things and made accepted in the Beloved (I Cor. xv, 8; Rom. iv, 25; Eph. i, 6, 7; Acts xiii, 38, 39).

Discriminating Wisdom.

A correspondent thinks he has discovered a discrepancy in the Bible because one verse says, "Answer a fool according to his folly lest he be wise in his own conceit," while another verse says, "Answer not a fool according to his folly lest thou also be like unto him."—Albany Times-Union.

GOT THE BACKACHE?

If You Have, Here's the Way to Rid Yourself of the Weariness and Pain Attending It.

Some people suffer with headaches, many people are worn out and weary all the time, many more people have lame back and backache. Few people understand the real cause of their aches, and fewer yet know how easily they can find a cure. Just a word of explanation before we prove that what we say is true. The back is the key-note of the kidneys. It aches; that's a sign that the kidneys are not working properly; it is lame; another sign, the kidneys are out of order. The kidneys, you know, are the filters of the blood, but filters sometimes get clogged up. This means in their case that the blood courses through the entire system impregnated with poisonous uric acid, bringing on many a disorder which, if neglected, means disease perhaps incurable. And now about the cure.—Don't take our word for it; read what others say:

Mr. David C. Oaks is proprietor of the well known hardware and paint shop at 230 East Main Street, Kalamazoo. Mr. Oaks has suffered a great deal from kidney ailments; he described his condition and cure as follows: "I had a bad, lame back, which I suppose was caused by my kidneys; I was confined to my bed during bad attacks. I might say from time to time, I have been in that condition for years. The urinary organism was affected, urine being scanty, highly colored, and difficult in passage. I was in a bad shape when I got a box of Doan's Kidney Pills, about which I had heard. I have used now two boxes of them, and the pills have removed all the pain and trouble. There was a marked improvement right from the first, and it has continued right along. Doan's Kidney Pills are the right thing in the right place."

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